

equal opportunity and racial equality. The principal mission is to secure, through the rule of law, equal justice under law.

The Committee's major objective is to use the skills and resources of the bar to obtain equal opportunity for minorities by addressing factors that contribute to racial justice and economic opportunity. Given our nation's history of racial discrimination, segregation, and the de facto inequities that persist, the Lawyers' Committee's primary focus is to represent the interest of African Americans in particular, other racial and ethnic minorities, and other victims of discrimination, where doing so can help to secure justice for all racial and ethnic minorities.

The Lawyers' Committee implements its mission and objectives by marshaling the pro bono resources of the bar for litigation, public policy advocacy, and other forms of service by lawyers to the cause of civil rights.

For decades, the Committee has made a lasting impact on civil rights in America. The Lawyers' Committee has continually pressed forth its mission to mobilize the bar in upholding the principles of equal opportunity and racial equality as the standards by which the integrity of American democracy is judged.

This year the Lawyers' Committee celebrates its 40th Anniversary. In celebration, the Lawyers' Committee is convening a major symposium, *The Quest for Equal Justice: Advancing a Dynamic Civil Rights Agenda for Our Times*—July 18 to 19 at the International Trade Center in Washington, DC. Distinguished participants will examine the progress that has been achieved and the many outstanding challenges presented by the persistence of racial, ethnic, gender and other forms of discrimination. The symposium hopes to address critical civil rights issues in the opening decades of the twenty-first century.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when we face the imminent danger of once again losing much of what has been gained in the national journey to equal rights it is critical that the Lawyers' Committee be given proper commendation for their continued hard work and dedication to civil rights. So, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. We wish them all the best as we acknowledge all of their accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO BILL WERNER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor an outstanding American from my district. Bill Werner is a real estate broker from Alamosa, Colorado who loves his country and understands that the freedoms we enjoy in this country come with a price. Bill also knows that, just as great nations must lead during difficult times, so too must great citizens. I am pleased to recognize Bill before this body of Congress as a citizen of character.

Bill's son, Billy, helped keep America safe and free by serving as a paramedic with the 3rd Infantry in the Iraq conflict. This fact made it particularly difficult for Bill to watch war protestors march past his Main Street office.

Rather than watch in silence, Bill decided to give the "silent majority" of Alamosans who support our troops a chance to be heard. Bill organized a parade that included a police honor guard, veterans groups and other citizens who wanted to take part. Our troops deserve to know that our country is behind them and that they will not be forgotten.

Bill followed the parade by collecting books and candy for U.S. troops in Iraq at his real estate office. He will distribute these goods to the Red Cross who will then dispense them to the troops. Bill hopes that the parade along with the gifts will show that Alamosa is a patriotic town, one where the citizens support the troops that protect their freedom.

Mr. Speaker, it would have been easier to not get involved, but Bill Werner had the courage and conviction to stand up for what he knew was right, and I applaud him for that. It is people like Bill who have helped make America great, and I am proud to tell his story before this body of Congress today. Thank you, Bill, your support and optimistic enthusiasm provide an example for us all.

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET YOUMANS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute today to the memory of a remarkable woman from my district. Margaret Youmans, who passed away recently at the age of 104, was the oldest resident of Gunnison County in Western Colorado, with a life spanning parts of three centuries.

Born in 1898, Margaret was the second of eight children born to Lake City businessman Charles Mendenhall and his wife Manetta. Margaret graduated from high school in 1918 and began a career as a teacher. Eight years later she was elected as a write-in candidate for Superintendent of the Hinsdale County Schools. Margaret also worked as a cook and for a newspaper, spending more than 60 years on a ranch, growing nearly everything her family ate.

Mr. Speaker, Margaret was a tough, self-reliant, and determined woman who attributed her long life to her love of family, good genetics, and plenty of good, hard work. Her "can-do" attitude exemplified the qualities that helped make this nation great, and I am honored to pay tribute to her memory here today.

TRIBUTE TO TOM PEIRCE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I rise before this body of Congress today to recognize the life and passing of Tom Peirce of Aspen, Colorado. Tom recently left us after a battle with cancer. As his family and friends mourn their loss, I think it is fitting to remember a few of Tom's contributions to the Aspen community.

Tom lived in Aspen nearly his entire life. After graduating from Aspen High School and

Colorado State University, he formed a travel company that focused on natural history and cultural trips. Although he traveled extensively, Tom loved Aspen and gave back to the community. Six years ago, Tom joined the board of the Aspen Center for Environmental Studies, and, before his health failed, launched a bid for the Aspen City Council.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the life and selfless dedication Tom Peirce demonstrated throughout his life. People like Tom who get involved in the community, create jobs, and work to improve our government, are the bedrock of this great nation. Tom is survived by his father Everett, sister Melanie, and brother Fred, and our thoughts are with them during this difficult time. Tom will be missed by his family, friends, and the many people in the Roaring Fork Valley who knew him.

TRIBUTE TO THE PEOPLE OF BAYAUD INDUSTRIES

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor a group of people who create hope and opportunity for those who are challenged with disabilities. The people of Bayaud Industries have helped the mentally ill and disabled find meaningful work in my home state of Colorado since 1969.

By providing jobs for people with disabilities, the people of Bayaud reach out to a group with the highest unemployment rate in the country. Bayaud is funded under the government's JWOD program to identify jobs for some 300 people a year who might otherwise not be able to find work. They do this by partnering with public and private organizations, from Coors to the EPA, helping numerous Coloradans lead more meaningful and productive lives. In addition to this, the people of Bayaud help a number of their employees move on to private sector jobs every year.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to the people of Bayaud Industries and their work under the JWOD program. By giving the disabled a hand up instead of a handout, they help numerous people realize the satisfaction that comes with meaningful employment. I commend their efforts to serve Colorado's disabled community.

TRIBUTE TO ELLA MOON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress today to pay tribute to Ella Moon of Fruita, Colorado. Ella Moon is the person behind Moon Farm, a remarkable place where thousands of kids have gone to play and learn for nearly four decades.

It all began in 1954 when Ella and Wallace Moon moved from Utah to an old hog farm in Western Colorado. Their children needed something to do during the summer so they built a tree house. The following summer, the